

CLAIMS

1. A fitting for connection to an end of a tubular member, the fitting comprising a collar which is
5 received over an outer surface of an end of the tubular member, and a separate externally threaded sleeve which has an outside diameter which is larger than an internal diameter of the tubular member, and which is
10 screwed into the tubular member to expand the tubular member and trap it between the collar and the sleeve.
2. A fitting as claimed in claim 1, in which the sleeve forms a thread in an internal wall of the tubular member as it is screwed in.
- 15 3. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the leading edge of the sleeve is chamfered.
- 20 4. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the thickness of a side wall of the sleeve decreases towards its distal end.
- 25 5. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the sleeve has an internal bore which is greater than or equal to an internal bore of the tubular member prior to insertion of the sleeve.
- 30 6. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the tubular member is a hose.
7. A fitting as claimed in claim 6, in which the tubular member is a high pressure hydraulic hose.

8. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the sleeve is connected to a hydraulic connector at its end remote from a threaded end of the sleeve.

5

9. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the tubular member is formed from a polymer.

10. 10. A fitting as claimed in claim 9, in which the tubular member is formed from Teflon.

11. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the tubular member comprises a resilient inner hose within a braided metal outer sheath.

12. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the thread on the threaded sleeve is 36 UNF or 28 UN on G-Line style pitch.

13. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the sleeve is provided with a secondary thread which engages in a corresponding thread formed on the collar.

14. A fitting as claimed in claim 13, in which the secondary thread is of larger diameter than the primary thread.

30

15. A fitting as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which an internal bore of the collar is cylindrical.

16. A fitting as claimed in claim 5, in which the internal bore of the collar is smooth.

17. A method of connecting a fitting to an end of a tubular member, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) fitting a collar over a free end of the tubular member;
- (b) screwing a threaded sleeve of the fitting, which sleeve has an outside diameter larger than an internal diameter of the tubular member, into the tubular member, thereby expanding the tubular member and trapping it between the collar and the sleeve.

18. A fitting for connection to an end of a tubular member, substantially as described herein, with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.